

AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Number 409

Published by
THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
New York City

March 18, 1930

59.57, 64 C

CANTHONELLA, A NEW GENUS OF SCARABÆIDÆ (COLEOPTERA)

BY EDWARD A. CHAPIN

CANTHONELLA, new genus

Related to *Canthon* Hoffmansegg but differing from that genus in having the pronotum margined basally as well as laterally, in the complete effacement of the posterior angles of the pronotum, and in having each tarsal claw furnished with a conspicuous submedian tooth.

Clypeus bidentate, the teeth small and separated by a broad semicircular notch. Superior portion of eye moderate in size but smaller than inferior portion. Antenna nine-segmented. Terminal segment of maxillary palp long, cylindro-acuminate. Pronotum with marginal bead both laterally and basally and with posterior angles obliterated. Prothoracic pleuræ with transverse carina. Scutellum not visible. Elytra coarsely and deeply striate, the intervals strongly convex. Elytral epipleuræ narrow, of even width nearly to apex, where they taper off sharply. Anterior tibia very gradually dilated toward apex, minutely serrulate along external margin, outer apical angle spiniform; lateral teeth two in number, small and well separated; spur slender, curved, about thrice as long as either lateral tooth. Anterior tarsus present. Middle and posterior tibiæ slender, curved, not dilated apically, each with a single spur. Each claw furnished with a submedian tooth.

GENOTYPE.—*Canthonella parva*, new species.

In the conformation of the head the present genus resembles *Cassolus* Sharp but it is not probable that the two are very closely related. The sharply delimited antennal cavities beneath the anterior angles of the pronotum recall certain species of *Canthon* Hoffmansegg, notably those associated with the name *Pseudocanthon* Bates. However, the margined pronotum, the deeply grooved elytra, and the toothed tarsal claws serve to separate *Canthonella* from all of the genera of canthonides known to me.

Canthonella parva, new species

Black, elytra each with a yellowish-white, quadrangular spot on the humerus reaching from the third stria to the margin, antennæ (except clubs), palpi and tarsi castaneous. Head finely and moderately densely punctured, the punctures coarser on the vertex. Pronotum coarsely, closely and evenly punctured. Elytra each with seven deep striæ, all of which are free basally and joined apically. Interspaces strongly convex and of unequal lengths; the first (sutural) and second reaching almost to the

apical margin, the third a little shorter, the fourth much shorter, the fifth a little longer than the fourth, the sixth and seventh again shorter. Epipleural carina ends just back of the third interspace. Metasternum sparsely punctured, the punctures coarser laterally. Each abdominal segment with a single row of coarse punctures. Pygidium coarsely and sparsely punctured laterally, the median area finely and sinuately strigillate. Length, 3 mm.

TYPE.—A male from Coamo Springs, Porto Rico, June 5–7, 1915.

PARATYPES.—Two specimens from same locality, same date; one female from Adjuntas, Porto Rico, June 8–13, 1915.

Type, No. 28456, and Adjuntas paratype, No. 28547, in the collection of The American Museum of Natural History; Coamo Springs paratypes in the United States National Museum, Cat. No. 42804. They were collected by F. E. Lutz and A. J. Mutchler in sifting fallen leaves.

Compared with *Canthon pygmæus* Harold, described from Cuba, the present species is not “piceus et subænescens” but is an almost blue-black, the pale spot on the elytron is not basal but humeral, and the pronotum is not “obsolete at dense punctulato” but strongly, densely and moderately coarsely punctate. It is evident, however, that Harold’s species should be known as *Canthonella pygmæa* (Harold).